Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* In view of these difficulties and inconveniences will the Government consider the dersirability of constructing a bridge as an item of Post-war Reconstruction Scheme?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* That does not arise out of this question, sir?

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Is it a steam ferry or a motor ferry ?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* A motor ferry.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Oh! Then there is no difficulty.

RATION—GOVERNMENT SERVANTS AND TEACHERS

182. Mrs. K. Joshua *(Women-Trichur):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether they are aware that in Travancore Government servants and teachers are given larger rations than here;

(*b*) if so, what difficulty is there for the Government to follow a similar procedure here ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):*

(*a*) No enhanced ration is being given to Government servants and teachers in Travancore.

(*b*) Does not arise.

RICE—RATION OF

183. Mrs. K. Joshua *(Women-Trichur):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether they are aware that the people of Cochin get a smaller quantity of rice, a smaller quantity of kerosene, than in British Malabar;

(*b*) are the Government aware that the prices of rice and paddy prevailing here is higher than in British Malabar;

(*c*) is the quality of rice inferior :

(*d*) if the answers are in the affirmative, will the Government be pleased to explain the position ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):*

(*a*) It is understood that thare is no uniform scale of rationing throughout the District in British Malabar, either for rice or for kerosene. In certain parts of British Malabar, the scale of rice supplied to people is, however, understood to be higher than in our State; our supplies from outside are limited and so we cannot adopt their scale of ration.

(*b*) Government have no accurate information. It is known that there is no uniform price for these commodities in all places in British Malabar. Rice and paddy are being sold there at cheaper rates in some places.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) The selling price of rice prevailing in Cochin State is fixed on a pooled basis taking into account all transactions in rice and paddy. Our quotas of rice from Central Government are mostly from far off places, like Sind, the Punjab, Baluchistan, Bahawalpur and Kashmir and the cost price of rice in these parts is very much higher than that in the Province of Madras from where the territories in British Malabar get their supplies.

KEROSENE—RATION OF

184. Mrs. K. Joshua *(Women-Trichur):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the quantity of kerosene rationed now per family;

(*b*) are the Government aware of the extreme hardships of students since the re-opening due to shortage of kerosene;

(*c*) what steps have been taken to remove the hardships ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):*

(*a*) ¾ bottle per mensem to an occupied house without electric light and ¼ bottle per mensem to an occupied house with electric light.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) During the last examination period a special supply of kerosene oil was allowed to the students. The question of enhancing the present ration can be considered only when the stock position improves. Those who can afford can supplement their kerosene ration by purchasing candles which are now proposed to be sold at fair price shops and licensed shops.

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. നാരായണമേനോൻ: ഇവ റേഷനരിയല്ല കൊടുക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ട് മണ്ണെണ്ണ ബാക്കി വരാറുണ്ടോ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Sometimes there is surplus.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* May I know, whether there was any surplus supply to the Talappilli Taluk ?

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